

Quick Reference

SNAP Eligibility – Updated October 2011

Program Description	Income Limit/Max. Benefits			Income Deductions	Resource Limit	Excluded From Resources	Counted Toward Resource Limit	Other Requirements
The Food Stamp Act of 2008 authorizes the Food Stamp Program. The Food Stamp Program is designed to increase the limited food purchasing power of low-income Households and thus alleviate hunger and malnutrition.	Gross Income Limits Apply First to Households with no Elderly or Disabled Members (Regular Households)			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 20% of earned income.• Standard deduction• Farm loss• Child care• Medical cost incurred by aged or disabled member.• Child support payments if legally obligated• Shelter cost	\$2,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A home• Some non-home properties if income producing or determined to be inaccessible• Life insurance• Burial spaces (one per household member)• Irrevocable burial arrangements• Tax Preferred retirement accounts• Certain Educational Savings accounts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cash on hand and in bank and credit unions (less income received that month)• Stocks and bonds• Real property other than the home (unless excluded)• Mutual funds• Savings certificates• Some vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Residency in the state• U.S. citizenship or legal alien status• Work registration• Social Security Number **Categorically eligible households do not have to meet income or resource limits. Categorically eligible households include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Any household with at least one member who receives TEA benefits. OR <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A household where all members receive SSI benefits
	Family Size	Gross Monthly Income						
	1	\$1180						
	2	1594						
	3	2008						
	4	2422						
	5	2836						
	6	3249						
	7	3663						
	8	4077						
	9	4491						
	10	4905						
	Net Income Limits Apply to all Regular Households Who Meet the Net Income Limits and to Households with Elderly and /or Disabled Members **			\$3250 if one member is disabled or 60 years of age or older	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 vehicle• Any vehicle used for transporting physically disable member• Income-producing vehicles• Vehicles used for self-employment• \$4,650 of value of vehicle for each employed person and student attending school			
	Family Size	Monthly Income	Maximum Benefits					
	1	908	200					
	2	1226	367					
	3	1545	526					
	4	1863	668					
	5	2181	793					
6	2500	952						
7	2818	1052						
8	3136	1202						
9	3455	1352						
10	3774	1502						

SNAP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. **Residency / Citizenship** - Participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program is limited to U.S. Citizens and certain legally admitted non-citizens.
2. **Lawful SNAP Household** - A household is normally composed of individuals who live together and purchase food and prepare meals together. The following individuals may not participate in the Program: boarders, ineligible students, disqualified persons, and residents of certain institutions.
3. **Work Registration** - All able-bodied individuals age 16 to 59 who are not otherwise exempt must register for work. Exemptions are granted for school attendance, full-time employment, disability, care of a dependent under the age of six, and care of a disabled dependent of any age. People who quit their jobs or who intentionally reduce their working hours to less than 30 hours per week without good cause are subject to sanction.
4. **Requirement to Work** - All able-bodied adults between the ages of 18 and 49 who are not pregnant or the parent of a minor dependent child must work at least twenty hours per week or participate in a work program. Any individual who fails to comply with this requirement for at least three months out of a designated 36-month period will be ineligible to receive SNAP benefits for the remainder of the 36-month period. The disqualification applies to the individual, not the entire household, and may be lifted if the individual complies with the requirement or becomes exempt from the requirement. *(As of April 1, 2009, The State waives this requirement statewide granted by Food and Nutrition Service in compliance with the ARRA.)*
5. **Resources** - The value of non-exempt resources cannot exceed \$3,250 for households with at least one member age 60 or older or disabled. The resource limit is \$2,000 for all other households.
6. **Social Security Number (SSN)** - Each household member who wishes to participate in the Program is required to provide a SSN or to apply for one before they are allowed to participate. Household members who do not comply with this requirement are disqualified from participation in the Program.
7. **Income** - Households containing a disabled member or a member age 60 or older must have a net income at or below 100% of the federal poverty guidelines. All other households must have both a gross income at or below 130% of the federal poverty guidelines and a net income at or below 100% of the federal poverty guidelines.

Example 1:

A household consisting of a mother and two school-age children submits a SNAP application. The mother works 40 hours each week and makes \$7.00 per hour. Her rent is \$250 per month and she pays the following utility bills - electricity, natural gas, and telephone. The household is not entitled to a medical deduction and the mother does not have to pay childcare.

The maximum monthly benefit for a household of 3 is **\$526**. This household is entitled to receive a monthly benefit of **\$278**.

Example 2:

A household consisting of a father, mother, and two pre-school age children submits a SNAP application. The father works 40 hours each week and makes \$7.00 per hour. Their rent is \$250 per month and they pay the following utility bills - electricity, natural gas, and telephone. The household is not entitled to a medical deduction and the mother cares for the children while the father works.

The maximum monthly benefit for a household of 4 is **\$668**. This household is entitled to receive a monthly benefit of **\$420**.